

Former camp counselor sentenced



Minnesota man charged after caught soliciting sex from undercover agent

Arrested for soliciting sex from a person he thought was a 15-year-old girl, a Fridley, Minn. man pleaded no contest Tuesday to an amended felony charge of showing a child harmful material.

In addition to \$255 in court costs, Justin D. Krohn, 20, was sentenced to two years probation and 30 days in jail with Huber privileges. He may not have contact with the victim or with minors who are not family members and must register as a sex offender.

Because he is under the age of 25, Krohn can seek to have the charge expunged from his record, pending Dunn County Circuit Court Judge Rod Smeltzer's approval.

According to the criminal complaint, Menomonie police received a call from the parents of a 15-year-old girl about their concerns that their daughter was using Skype software to have what they considered inappropriate voice conversations with Krohn. The case was turned over to a special agent from the Wisconsin Division of Criminal Investigation (DCI).

Posing as the daughter, the special agent contacted Krohn and provided him with an e-mail address of a “friend.” Almost immediately, the agent received an instant message response from Krohn.

The special agent described himself to Krohn as a 15-year-old girl and after engaging in general chat, the conversation became sexually graphic. The pattern was repeated the following day.

Krohn suggested getting together to have sex. The DCI agent agreed to meet at the McDonald’s restaurant in north Menomonie on Nov. 22. So the “girl” would know what he looked like, Krohn suggested that “she” look him up on Facebook.

When Krohn arrived, he was arrested in the McDonald’s parking lot by two DCI special agents and transported to the Dunn County Jail.

Following his arrest, Krohn told authorities he originally met the 15-year-old girl when he was a junior counselor at a Bible camp. He said she had looked him up on Facebook the previous week, and they began communicating over the Internet.

A remorseful Krohn told Judge Smeltzer that he recognizes the magnitude of his mistake. “I struggle with this on a daily basis,” he said. “I not only diminished my image to everybody else, but also to me about myself.”

Reminding Krohn that the incident doesn’t have to define the rest of his life, Smeltzer added that he hoped his sentence would send a message about posting on Facebook, describing it as “leaving footprints about who you are and what you are about.”

SOURCE: http://chippewa.com/dunnconnect/news/local/article_74a4335c-7e35-5ba0-b0fd-034c23fe2ba2.html